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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING A STERILE HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT ~~HYALURONIC~~ ACID FORMULATION

**(57) Abstract:** A process for preparing a sterile ready-to-use aqueous pharmaceutical formulation comprises a high molecular weight hyaluronic acid salt (HA) at a specified concentration, comprising the steps of: providing an aqueous formulation comprising high molecular weight HA at a concentration of less than the specified final concentration; passing said aqueous formulation through a filter having a pore size less than 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$ ; concentrating said aqueous formulation by applying a vacuum and boiling off water until said specified concentration is reached.

